

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating an airway condition of a patient where said airway condition is characterized by a dynamic response of a tissue of said airway to airflow, said method comprising:

selecting an implant dimensioned so as to be implanted into said tissue, said implant having mechanical characteristics for said implant, at least in combination with a fibrotic tissue response induced by said implant, to alter said dynamic response of said tissue without application of force external to said tissue;

implanting said implant into said tissue to alter said dynamic response.

2. A method according to claim 1 comprising providing said implant to have a mass sufficient to alter said dynamic response following said implantation without substantially impairing a function of said tissue.

3. A method according to claim 1 comprising providing said implant to dampen said dynamic response following said implantation without substantially impairing a function of tissue.

4. A method according to claim 1 comprising providing said implant to stiffen said tissue to alter said dynamic response following said implantation without substantially impairing a function of said tissue.

5. A method for treating an airway condition of a patient where said airway condition is characterized by a dynamic response of a tissue of said airway to airflow, said method comprising:

selecting an implant dimensioned so as to be implanted into said tissue, said implant having mechanical characteristics for said implant, at least in combination with a fibrotic tissue response induced by said implant, to alter said dynamic response of said tissue to air flow past said tissue without application of force external to said tissue, and said implant having a longitudinal dimension and a

narrower transverse dimension and said implant being flexible along said longitudinal dimension, said implant further dimensioned so as to not substantially increase a bulk of said tissue following implantation of said implant into said tissue; and

implanting said implant within said tissue to alter said dynamic response.

6. A method for treating an airway condition of a patient where said airway condition is characterized by a dynamic response of a tissue of said airway to airflow, said method comprising:

selecting an implant dimensioned so as to be implanted into said tissue, said implant having mechanical characteristics for said implant, at least in combination with a fibrotic tissue response induced by said implant, to alter said dynamic response of said tissue to air flow past said tissue without application of force external to said tissue, and said implant having a longitudinal dimension and a narrower transverse dimension and said implant being flexible along said longitudinal dimension, and said implant having a stiffness selected to stiffen said tissue to alter said dynamic response following said implantation without substantially impairing a function of said tissue;

implanting said implant within said tissue to alter said dynamic response.

7. A method according to claim 1 wherein said airway condition is snoring.
8. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tissue is a soft palate.
9. A method according to claim 5 wherein said airway condition is snoring.
10. A method according to claim 5 wherein said tissue is a soft palate.
11. A method according to claim 6 wherein said airway condition is snoring.

12. A method according to claim 6 wherein said tissue is a soft palate.